

National Museum of American History
Information Technology & Society
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, DC 20560
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Facsimile Transmission Sheet

Date: 3/12/96
To: Deanne
Fax: 415-826-4423
From: Helen

Hi There —

Good to talk to you! Here is the letter that Spencer sent out (or signed rather). Karen is out of the office at the moment so I need to get the name & number ^(of Lamar Alexander's staff) from her. A message to David ^{from her} hasn't appeared on email yet.

Karen also gave Tensia's name for him to talk to — for pr stuff, not historical aspects. Just FYI. I'll have her call you — or I will w/ that info. . . .

Sorry to not have it at hand.

February 28, 1996

Mr. Alan Keyes
Alan Keyes President '96
611 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Suite 1150
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Mr. Keyes:

For over a century, the Smithsonian Institution has collected artifacts related to Presidential Campaigns in the National Museum of American History. This year, once again, our staff has been following candidates along the campaign trail gathering material used by 1996 presidential candidates to establish their positions, promote their messages and enlist public support.

Because our mission is to ensure that our collection reflect and include all new forms of political expression, a major goal this year is to document the first use of the World Wide Web in a presidential campaign. With the help of the Library of Alexandria Foundation of San Francisco, we are now collecting samples of documentation on the web at critical times during the campaign, such as before and after major primaries. Thus we are preserving a historical account of the evolution of how this medium is used to present information to the public.

To complete our Campaign '96 Web Collection, we would like your assistance in two areas.

- First, would you please identify the key person or persons on your campaign staff whom we may contact for information about your web strategy for this campaign. We would appreciate having any information they have about how you developed, maintained and responded to the dialogue on your Campaign '96 site. We also hope to complete video interviews with some of these officials for the record.
- Secondly, we invite you to participate in a seminar discussion on the role of the web in the campaign at the National Museum of American History in December when the campaign has concluded. At that time, we hope you will join us to reflect on how the web is—and is not—changing political discourse in America. Documenting how you view this after the election is over will be very valuable to historians in the future.

Thank you for your assistance as we continue to document and preserve the evolution of the American political process.

Sincerely,

Spencer R. Crew
Director